

## THE PUBLIC FORUM

**MARRIAGE COST.**—Or all pseudo-remedies this one proposed by Wm. Burton and commended by "A Reader" is about the poorest. Suppose John Brown, Wendell Phillips, Wm. Lloyd Garrison and the rest of the anti-slavery agitators had gone about advising the slaves not to have any more offspring, would this have settled the question of slavery?

The only way this and all other questions involving human rights can be settled is by first finding out the cause of the trouble and then endeavoring to remove it. The so-called master class could not exercise any mastery if the equal right of every human being to the earth were legally established, which is not the case at present. To find out the reason read Henry George's "Progress and Poverty." — J. Weiler, 1229 Macedonia st.

**TRADING STAMPS.**—In justice to the great American public I am forced to protest the birthrate estimate of "one born every minute" as being too conservative, judging by the progress that many of the so-called modern business methods, particularly the trading stamp schemes, are making at the expense of said public.

In the pioneer days large tribes of Indians (the then American public) killed themselves drinking whisky in order to secure crazy-colored bandanna handkerchiefs which the white men offered them as a special inducement to buy the booze.

Of course, the American public of today are not like Indians. They cannot drink whisky like the red men could, nor can they feel all dressed up in a bandanna handkerchief. But they are just as foolish. They will go into a store and insist that the storekeeper give them trading stamps or coupons or exchange certificates with every purchase, never for an instant stopping to realize that the

storekeeper must pay a big million-dollar coupon corporation a snug sum for the privilege of giving these coupons away, and neither do they stop to consider where the storekeeper gets the extra money from to pay for the coupons. But let me tell you, kind public! He gets it out of your pocket, and it's no fault of his, because you go in and insist that he take it out of your pocket. You are making a lot of schemers rich by letting them play on your weakness by offering apparently something for nothing; and for which you are paying dearly. So please wake up. It's long after six.—"Jimac."

**DERRY WANTS STEDMAN.**—In reply to Mr. J. Lipsitz in the March 2 issue of The Day Booy, if union men want to vote for some one for mayor that will look out for the workingmen's interests let them all vote for Stedman, the Socialist candidate for mayor. He is pledged to fight for the rights of the working people.—W. R. Derry, 3342 N. Halsted.

**HEARST'S SUPPORT.**—We read all the Chicago papers except the Hearst sheets, and they are not permitted in our home. We are indebted to Frank A. Armstrong for the information that Hearst is supporting Sweitzer. If this is a fact, Mr. Armstrong can rest assured that such support is entirely unsolicited, in fact thrust upon him. None of the candidates is seeking or desire such support.

In spite of Mr. Armstrong's strong condemnation of Hearst he must read his papers. Not very consistent! The Harrison administration will long be remembered as the rottenest Chicago ever labored under. It has been a long succession of scandals and decayed politics. Harrison and Hearst made a sweet dish for Chicago to swallow, and if our stomachs stood that we should have no misgivings as to the future. The three candidates now running seem to be clean men,